

JEFFERSON DAVIS. BUENA VISTA.

We are indebted to a friend, (whose favors have been often bestowed,) for the following extracts from Carleton's narration of the battle of Buena Vista, showing the brave conduct of Col. Jefferson Davis, and his regiment of Mississippi volunteers, with steady exertions showing the force of the regiments, loss, &c., and the fact that not a regular infantry soldier was in the action.—*En. Courier.*

Our whole left had now been forced, and the enemy was in possession of every advantage arising from the peculiar nature of the ground, the alternate ridges and ravines being as much in his favor as ours.

It was at this critical juncture that Gen. Taylor arrived upon the field, from Satilla, having completed his dispositions for the defense of the city. He was accompanied by Lieutenant-Colonel May, with the two companies of the Second Dragoons, and by Col. Davis with eight companies of his Mississippi Regiment. Capt. Albert Pike, with his own company, and that of Co. John Preston Jr., (the two united as a squadron) and Lieut. Kilburn, with one piece from Capt. Bragg's Battery, had also been ordered to the field of battle from below the city, where they had been detached duty. The Mississippi riflemen halted near the hacienda long enough for the men to fill their canteens with water, when they were hurried off from the road diagonally to the left, and advanced toward the point where our troops were fast giving ground to the enemy. The General commanding proceeded on directly to the plateau, having with him the Second Dragoons.

Up to this time, Gen. Wool, being next in command, had assigned the positions for all the troops, and conducted the battle from the beginning; but, the moment Gen. Taylor arrived at the front and assumed the direction of affairs, he immediately started to assist Gen. Lane in rallying the Second Indiana Volunteers, and to endeavor to restore something like order to our left, which, by this time, had swung around so as to face toward the mountains on that side, and in a direction perpendicular to the original line. The position of the batteries still in active operation on the plateau, the point of land on which Col. Hardin had drawn up a parapet, and Capt. Washington's position at La Augustura, were, at this moment, the only portions of the ground we first occupied, from which we had not been driven. Already our loss in officers and men had been immense, and among them was included the gallant and chivalrous assistant Adjutant-General, Captain George Lincoln, one of the most promising young officers of the army; and one, who, possessing every quality which can adorn a gentleman, was admired and beloved by all who knew him.

The aspect of affairs was now most gloomy, and our condition most critical. The scale, for a short time, appeared to be preponderating against us, and victory to be deserting our banners, and winging her way toward those of the enemy. But the idea of yielding the day, so long as there was a man left to fight, never for a moment, came into the mind of our determined leader; and in his indomitable resolution to compel fortune to favor our side, he was seconded by men, true as the steel they were, and firm and unyielding as the mountains around them.

The gallant Col. Davis and his glorious Mississippians—men who had been tried in the storming of Monterey and had stood the test like pure gold—now moved steadily forward through the broad circuit of our retreating horse and foot. He called loudly on those who were flying to come back with him and renew the combat. They were few indeed who heeded his call. Col. Bowles, who for some reason other than the lack of courage, had ordered his men to retreat, now having lost all hope of rallying it again, seized a rifle, and followed by a handful of his men, joined the Mississippians as a private. During the whole day he shared their perils, and was distinguished for his personal bravery. With these exceptions, Col. Davis' appeal was of no avail. In vain he told them that his riflemen were a mass of men behind which they could take shelter and securely form! He pointed to his regiment as he said his. It was indeed a wall of heroes. What must have been his pride in commanding such men! What the mortification and burning shame of the fugitives whom he addressed!

Colonel Davis, as he passed by General Wool, who had now arrived at this part of the ground, was promised support, and the General immediately went in person to hasten the third Indiana Regiment from the rear of La Augustura to his aid. But still the Mississippians moved onward. A large and deep ravine passed by their right, while another entered this after coming diagonally across their front from the left, the two embracing between them an inch-wide place which terminated at a point near the junction (at this moment but a short distance in advance of the Regiments) but which was quite broad and easy to be gained at its upper and further extremity, near the mountains. On the plain most of America's light division was now moving down, flanked by cavalry, and supported by reserves of the heavy infantry. The third Indiana Volunteers had not yet had time to come up, and it was all important that the enemy should be checked before he could effect a passage of the only ravine which would seriously retard his course onward to the road. Flushed with success, and apparently irresistible in numbers, he came down like an avalanche. Then it was that Davis and his followers surpassed all their former brilliant efforts. They counted not the odds; they waited for no support; but threw rapidly into order of battle, they pressed forward like Spartans, and although the air was filled with the sharp hissing of a shower of lead which came rushing on, and cutting through their ranks with dreadful effect, still they did not pause until they had brought the enemy within close range of their own uncaring weapons. Then their little line blazed forth a sheet of fire. The shock given by it to the rear of the enemy's column was most awful. Men went down before it as ripe grain before the reaper. Still the enemy came onward over his dead, and still forward pressed the riflemen—the latter a handful, the former a host.

At length they paused, the Mississippians on the brink of the ravine, the Mexican Light Infantry on the plain beyond; the Cavalry having been driven to cover on their left. But there was no cessation in the struggle, and death still continued to

gather in his bloody harvest. It was not enough for the Mississippians simply to hold such masses at bay, their blood was up and the flight of the enemy alone could satisfy them. Giving one loud yell of defiance which rang on the ear more like the roar of a young lion than the shout of men, they again rushed forward. A moment, and they were lost from the view of their antagonists. It was only a moment, but in it they had dashed into a ravine, clambered up the opposing wall, and now stood before the Mexicans upon their own side—for a few moments more the carnage wavered.

At length, blood and torn, the column of Ambida lost its steadiness, its fire slackened, then all organization was gone, its ranks were resolved into a confused multitude, which in a moment crumbled away the whole fleeing precipitately back to the reserves.

The Mississippians then turned to the right to beat up the cover of what had been the flanking cover of this column. They found it attempting to cross the ravine on that hand in order to attack them in reverse. A few only had crossed, their commander among them, but they never went back, and those who were pressing down to succeed them, received fire it was impossible for them to withstand. They, too, gave way, and fled back to the point whither the light infantry had retreated, and where they were now just forming again.

For a little while this part of the field appeared to be comparatively safe, and by the determined valor of our small regiment, imminent peril to our whole army seemed to be averted. The Mississippians gathered up their wounded, and taking them to the rear of the first ravine they had crossed, there loomed again in the line of battle. They were joined by the third Indiana Volunteers, under Col. Lane, and by Lieut. Kilburn, with one piece of artillery.

The fire of this combined force caused those who just before contended with Col. Davis' Regiment, to fall back for a short time, still farther and beyond range.

(Narrative of the Battle of Buena Vista, by Captain Carleton, First Dragoons.)

The Mississippi Regiment went it to battle numbering 500, and lost in killed 40, wounded 55, and missing 2; in all 95.

On the 3d April, 1849, the Secretary of War, the Hon. W. L. Marcy, wrote to Gen. Taylor as follows:

"The single fact that 500 of troops, nearly all volunteers, who, yielding to the impulse of patriotism, had rallied to their country's standard for a temporary service, were brought into conflict with an army of 20,000 mostly veteran soldiers, and not only stood and repulsed the assault of this numerous host, but by their most experienced General, but in a protracted battle of two days, won a glorious victory, is the most indisputable evidence of the consummate skill and gallant conduct of our officers and devoted heroism of the troops under their command."

The general results were 4999 of the enemy killed and wounded, gain to our loss of 769 gallant men." [General Orders no. 54, March 15, 1847.]

"Not a regular infantry soldier was in this fight."

* * * Our loss about 264 killed and 150 wounded; the enemy's loss about 2500 in killed and wounded, and 4000 missing. Letter of Major Mansfield, of Engineers, from Agua Navea, on March 1, 1847.]

A Patriot.

Ex-Secretary Thompson concluded his speech, at Oxford Miss., as follows:

"But, my friends, Mississippi has stood the test like pure gold—now moved steadily forward through the broad circuit of our retreating horse and foot. He called loudly on those who were flying to come back with him and renew the combat. They were few indeed who heeded his call. Col. Bowles, who for some reason other than the lack of courage, had ordered his men to retreat, now having lost all hope of rallying it again, seized a rifle, and followed by a handful of his men, joined the Mississippians as a private. During the whole day he shared their perils, and was distinguished for his personal bravery.

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Arrival of the Jura.

The Emperor Napoleon opened the French Legislature on the 4th inst. His speech gives pacific assurances. He relates his non-intervention policy.

Queen Victoria opened Parliament on the 5th. Her speech alludes to the American troubles, and expresses the fervent wish that an amicable adjustment may be effected.

Francis II. has issued an appeal to the Sicilians, offering the Constitution of 1812, and an entirely different Administration. He asks them to give an asylum to the royal family.

Advices from Rome to the 3d, say that the Pope has ordered the troops to return.

Fit for thousand Saracenian troops have evacuated the Papal dominions.

The Spanish war vessels which were sent to Gaeta have been repulsed by Admiral Passano.

The Dabats says that the Italian Parliament will proclaim Victor Emanuel King of Italy immediately after assembling.

It was thought by one of the Garibaldini had gone to Dalmatia. In a letter to his English friends, he expressed an anxious wish to make a journey to England, and, to thank the people for their moral and material aid, but he was unable to fix the time.

It is said that the Emperor of Austria has decided to grant a Constitution to Venetia, which will leave the Government to the Italians.

The Spanish Infanta, Don Juan, has decided to relinquish his pretensions to the crown, reserving only the eventuality of being elected by universal suffrage.

It is asserted that the Pope insists on the extension of the Paris Convention on the subject of the occupation of Syria.

MASSACRE OF EMIGRANTS IN CARSON VALLEY.—The Penver City (Idaho Territory) correspondent of the St. Louis Republican communicates under date of the 29th ult., the following details of another Mormon massacre in Carson Valley. We quote:

"The Rutherford Press, of the Southern Guardian Steam Printing Establishment.

Having recently made large and choice additions to our JOB OFFICE, from the best type founders in the country, we are now prepared to do all kinds of printing in as neat style and on as favorable terms as any office in the State.

The premium for the best specimen of Book Printing was awarded at the late Fair to the proprietor of the *Southern Guardian*.

All communications to be addressed to the *Southern Guardian*, or to

C. P. PELHAM, Columbus, S. C.

Nov 29 39-41

PROSPECTUS

OF THE

RUTHERFORD PRESS,

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER TO BE PUBLISHED AT

RUTHERFORD COURT HOUSE, N. C.

—

THE Rutherford Press will be issued at \$1.00 per annum, monthly in advance.

C. TURNER, Editor.

T. A. HAYDEN, Publisher.

These papers interested in an exchange with us, will please send their papers after the 15th of February.

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THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

SPARTANBURG DISTRICT,

IN THE COURT OF ORDINARY,

O. E. EDWARDS, Administrator's Attorney,

Mrs. Matilda L. Waters, and others Defendants.

IT having been shown to my satisfaction that the paper will not be an instrument for the promotion of any party, as distinguished by the names of Whig and Democrat, but will be an organ of Southern Rights. The Editor promises not to dictate to the people the course that they in these eventful times should pursue, but is willing to let the people to exercise their own opinions, while he claims for himself the same privilege. The columns of the paper will be open to general discussion on matters of general interest. For the success of our enterprise, we will look to the intelligence, patriotism and liberality of the citizens of Rutherford and adjoining Counties.

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THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

SPARTANBURG DISTRICT,

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS,

I. L. TWITTY, Esq., Attorney,

E. M. LANE, Esq., Attachment,

Reed, Vernon & Dunham, Pitts' Atty.

WILLIAMS the plaintiff did, on the 16th day of April, file their declaration against the defendant (who is as it is said) absent from and without the limits of this State, and his neither wife nor attorney known within the same upon whom a copy of the said declaration might be served.

It is therefore ordered, That the said defendant do appear and plead to the said declaration, on or before the 26th day of October next, which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one; otherwise final and absolute judgment will then be given and awarded against him.

J. B. TOLLESON, C. C. P.

Feb. 10 7 4q

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

In the Court of Common Pleas,

G. W. MOORE, vs. Attachment,

ROBERT WAYNE, vs. Attachment,

E. B. Edwards & Carlisle, Pitts' Atty.

WILLIAMS the plaintiff did, on the 25th day of April, file his declaration against the defendant, who is as it is said) absent from and without the limits of this State, and his neither wife nor attorney known within the same upon whom a copy of the said declaration might be served.

It is therefore ordered, That the said defendant do appear and plead to the said declaration, on or before the 26th day of October next, which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one; otherwise final and absolute judgment will then be given and awarded against him.

J. B. TOLLESON, C. C. P.

Oct. 25 7 4q 4q

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P. L. L. TWITTY, vs. Attachment,

vs. Attachment,

H. F. VERNON, vs. Attachment,

vs. Attachment,

B. E. EDWARDS & CARLISLE, Pitts' Atty.

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